From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 00:15:40 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:15:35 -0600
Message-Id: <9503082324.AA21102@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Re: 27

Thanks, Philip, and everyone, for the pinouts. I think I have all the info I need now!

I may try to post the Oscillodyne circuit in ASCII if it doesn't come out too bizarre. Does anyone else on the List have that Lindsay reprint, Official 1934 Short Wave Manual? I should get back on Lindsay's mailing list and see if it's still in print. Interesting old STUFF, and easier to find than the old copies of Short Wave Craft.

Also, will continue work on that Electric Radio electronic index this weekend. Hold yer horses, but I think it will be useful once I'm finished.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 20:22:46 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 12:03:14 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081303.ZM2150@eehp04>
From: "Gregory Raven Redi" <ravengre@eehp04.comm.mot.com>
Subject: Aircraft Radio Corp Spline Shafts

ARC Fans-

Does anyone know a source of spline shafts for ARC receivers ? The spline shaft is a flexible metal tube with a cable inside with special adapters on each end. It is somewhat analagous to the control cable on your lawnmower. A spline shaft allows remote mechanical control of receivers or other equipment. I have a couple of 6 foot long shaft assemblies I ordered from Fair several years ago, but these are too long for the application I had in mind.

I am trying to use a control box as a local control on an R-11 receiver. The R-11 is the later ARC type receiver (190-510 kHz) with no dial ! A very short spline shaft would be the right way to go.

Since the later ARC equipment was used in Civil Aviation, I'll bet there is a whole pile of spline shafts lying around in some hangar. Any aviation buffs seem this stuff lying around ?

--
Regards,
Greg Raven

egr002@email.mot.com

```
From boatanchors@theporch.com  Wed Mar  8 23:17:34 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 20:32:20 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.PCW.3.91.950308161848.7143A-100000@dip057.pixi.com>
From: Dave Creek <dcreek@pixi.com>
Subject: Re: Aircraft Radio Corp Spline Shafts
```

On Wed, 8 Mar 1995, Gregory Raven Redi wrote:

> ARC Fans-
>
> Does anyone know a source of spline shafts for ARC receivers ? The spline shaft is a flexible metal tube with a cable inside with special adapters on each end. It is somewhat analagous to the control cable on your lawnmower. A spline shaft allows remote mechanical control of receivers or other equipment. I have a couple of 6 foot long shaft assemblies I ordered from Fair several years ago, but these are too long for the application I had in mind.
>
> I am trying to use a control box as a local control on an R-11 receiver. The R-11 is the later ARC type receiver (190-510 kHz) with no dial ! A very short spline shaft would be the right way to go.
>
> Since the later ARC equipment was used in Civil Aviation, I'll bet there is a whole pile of spline shafts lying around in some hangar. Any aviation buffs seem this stuff lying around ?

The later commercial versions were known as the ARC Type 12 series.
The last one of these I saw was stripped out of a Beach 18 that was flown out here from California for one of our interisland tour airlines. This was about 7 years ago.
I remember when I first started playing with the old ARC-5/SCR-274N systems, we built tuning cables out of a generic replacement speedometer cable. I believe these were sold by truck parts companies. They had male and female spline ends on the inner shaft and a screw coupling on the outer case. One end was loose and could be soldered on after cutting to length.

Hope this helps

Dave Creek, NH6BA
Ewa Beach, HI.
dcreek@pixi.com

```
From boatanchors@theporch.com  Wed Mar  8 21:05:24 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 19:05:28 -0600
```

Message-Id: <199503090106.TAA01387@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: Re: d.c.c. wire

>D.c.c = double cotton covered; d.s.c=double silk covered. This is
>1930's terminology. The wire manufacturers use "served" in place of
>"covered." Nylon-served wire was more commonly used in the the 1950's.
>
>Not sure what you can get or use today. Purpose of the covering on
>smaller wire is to give it enough friction to stand up with universal
>winding. Probably a served wire is specified here because of voltage
>developed across the coil.
>

AES has modern-day insulated wire somewhere in their catalog (which I left
at work) which is described as a reasonable substitute for d.c.c. wire. I'm
happy to own two wooden quarter pound spools of silver plated, d.c.c. wire
in 20 and 24 gauges, which are going into my 30's ARRL handbook projects.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:07:28 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 12:05:23 -0600
Message-Id: <52302.morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Fwd: How the GRID was Named

----- Forwarded message begins here -----
>From: bill harris <billhar@spaceworks.com>

Newsgroups: rec.antiques.radio+phono
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 04:44:58 GMT
Subject: How the GRID was Named
Here is a bit of radio history trivia that I found in a 1947 issue
of Radio Craft that you might find interesting.

How the Grid was Named

During experiments with the first handmade tubes Dr. de Forest
would give instructions somewhat in the following manner:
"Here, hook this to that and that to this. Tie this to that post
and bring that wire over here to this"
It was often hard for the assistant to tell what this or what
that to hook what to, so one day in frustration, the assistant
said, "Doc, why don't you name some of these parts so we know
what we are doing."
"Alright" snapped de Forest, "you know what the "wing" is (which

is now know as the "plate", and the filament". "We'll call this other jigger the GRID, because it looks like a roaster grid". "And make a sign and hang it on the wall: REMEMBER GRID TO GREEN and Red to Wing".

So to this day in electronic circuits, green goes to the grid and red to the plate.

Bill Harris

------ Forwarded message ends here ------

--
Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:57:31 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:13:21 -0600
Message-Id: <950308141534_72227.1640_EHM73-2@CompuServe.COM>
From: Dave Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>
Subject: Going, Going....

ATTENTION GREEN KEY PEOPLES

Last call on the BE-77 line you-nit. If noone wants it, it's going to meet it's maker. I don't have room for orphans these days.

73 DE AB5S/7
Dave Stinson
Lost Wages, Nevada

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 23:25:37 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:36:32 -0600
Message-Id: <199503082002.PAA27444@latte.eng.umd.edu>
From: Philip Gwyinne McCoy <dgnova@glue.umd.edu>
Subject: headphones

Attention:
On connedting headphones directly to the plate of a vacuum tube be careful to connect the two headphone wires in the right way. Headphone are polarized. If the DC current flows into one lead, it will aid the magnetic field of the headphones. If the

current flows into the other lead, it will buck the magnetic field and over time will decrease or elimenate the headphones magnetic field. Sorry, but I have a very bad cold, my head is spinning around and I am probably not making sense. But I wanted to warn you.

Philip dgnova@eng.umd.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 21:58:09 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 11:49:05 -0600
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950308121601.jproc@>
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: Marconi C52

Dear BA's,

Wanted: Carrier assembly and a box set of spare tubes for Marconi C52 receiver/transmitter, circa 1944.

Regards,

Jerry Proc, VE3FAB
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Toronto, Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 21:34:53 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:25:12 -0600
Message-Id: <n1417454663.16610@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Master Mobile matching device

John!   A great find! Where is this wonderous junk shop anyway?

What you have is high tech 1950's mobile whip matching by a base network which is the roller coil in your box. You can now do dynamic matching of your Hustler whip at any frequency you operate with the FT 7. Just tune for lowest swr at the rig. I think these sold for a lot more in the '50's than what you just paid. Just place it in the trunk, close to the base of your whip, and run a heavy insulated, and short wire to the feed point of the whip mount. Use heavy braid to ground the case of the matching box to the ground of the car. Some folks used to drill a hole in the trunk to lead out the wire to the bumper mounts popular on those big 50's cars. They would grommet the hole, or use a ceramic feed thru insulator. I have forgotten if the input side of the Matcher has a coax connector or not. It may have screw lug connections. Enjoy your mobiling. You obviously got one that came out after cars went to 12 volts, I guess. You could use a 6 volt one too, just would tune fast!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:04:59 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 11:45:15 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503080926.A15213-0100000@ozarks>
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>
Subject: Re: master mobile tuner

On Tue, 7 Mar 1995 johnb@thelair.zynet.com wrote:

>
>   While poking thru the junk shop looking for some oil filled
> caps (2Uf, 10kv = $4.00) I found a NOS master mobile brand motorized
> roller inductor antenna tuner. At $14 it was in the car with me. Its
> never been used, and works (well, the motor works) .... anyone have
> any information on this unit? Its in an aluminum box with a clear
> cover so you can see the tuning action.
>

That is a good item to have. I used one for years to fine tune my Webster Bandspanner without hving to get out of the car. Mine had a small control head with an RF Amp meter and a three position switch under it...momentary left, center off, momentary right. The switch reversed polarity to the motor so you could rock the inductor for max output on the meter. This was before SWR brdiges were common. I used it until I switched over to Hustler antennas which were a bit more broadbanded at a given setting than the Webster.

There was a base loaded Master Mobile antenna that used a motorized inductor but the motor was too small and burned out frequently.

Sholdn't be hard to get it working. Knew one fellow who waterproofed his and used it outside to tune a vertical similar to the Johnson Matchstick antenna principle.

73, de Frank K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...-.-

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 23:03:14 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:06:09 -0600
Message-Id: <950308141315_72227.1640_EHM73-1@CompuServe.COM>
From: Dave AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>

Subject: Missing Digests

Well, I'm here reading Digest 85, and I never saw 82-84.
I hope I didn't miss anything important!
Is anyone else who uses compuserve having a problem??

I wrote to the gentleman looking for the ARC-5 modulator.
Did you get it? Sorry for the bandwidth, but when you can't
trust your mailer....sigh!

73 DE AB5S/7
Dave Stinson
Lost Wages, Nevada

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:00:32 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 12:07:21 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081535.AA17588@us2rmc.zko.dec.com>
From: harlan@csoa1.enet.dec.com
Subject: more manson info

I did service/alignment on several R390's and 390A's for a friend of mine a few months ago and one of the A's from the last contract, FR-BLAH-BLAH-BLAH-67 had a feature I had never seen before. All the Oscillator outputs were seriesed through sets of 2 DPDT relays that appeared to allow the R390A to use its own Oscillators,Import external oscillator signals,or export its internal oscillators to a set of BNC jacks on the rear panel.

By all the oscillators I mean PTO,17Mcy XTAL,and the 1st conversion xtal. These relays required external power via a small connector labled CONTROL.

The relays were Mil Spec commercial units mounted on well machined casts that fit into the OSC tube sockets on the PTO and Hetrodyne osc and the one for 17mhz xtal plugged into the socket for crystal oven. There were 2 small dia. color coded coax cables going to each relay.The R390a worked normally with no connections to any of the connectors.

Interesting that all these relays were labled MANSON Labs. Go Figure...

Dan Harlan
N8ETQ
Cleve.,Oh.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 21:39:31 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 11:37:51 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081443.AA01291@unlinfo2.unl.edu>
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (Daniel Wright)
Subject: old 73 magazines

Exercise in Futility aside............

Does anyone have the complete year 1963 "73" magazines that they would like to part with? OK...how about the October 1963 issue? I think that was the "Receivers" issue. Thanks es 73 de dan -- WA0JRD ..

djw@unlinfo.unl.edu

anxiuosly awaiting the flood of replies.......! (8-> .. (8-/

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 13:35:48 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 08:00:01 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081359.AA18957@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

Oh, a couple more thoughts on this....

Could someone give me pinouts for the type 27 and 37 tubes? My Sylvania reference probably doesn't have it. <grin> Also, how does one COUNT PINS on these things? I assume there are two large pins for the filament.

I was going to buy most of the parts from AES. If someone knows of some better places, please post. I think I'd like to buy new rather than scrounging because I have thoughts about making this an article in a SWL mag, if all turns out well.

And finally, would a string of 10 9V batteries do for plate voltage? That would do for the present and would be cheaper than homebrewing a supply off-the-bat. I imagine they'd last nearly forever.........

Thanks, all!
--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 21:20:36 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 18:37:16 -0600
Message-Id: <199503090035.SAA05588@uro.theporch.com>
From: "Stephen M. Linscott" <LINSCOT@RICEVM1.RICE.EDU>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

On Wed, 8 Mar 1995 08:00:01 -0600 you said:

(deletia)

>And finally, would a string of 10 9V batteries do for plate voltage? That
>would do for the present and would be cheaper than homebrewing a supply
>off-the-bat. I imagine they'd last nearly forever.........

Why not back-to-back filament xfmrs from Radio Shack, rectified, filtered,
and feeding a VR90? You can rectify the LV and use a resistor to drop it to
the correct filament voltage, too. (DC everywhere, right?)

73 de W5EGP - Steve -

```
******************************************************************
*    Steve Linscott, Divisional Consultant - Natural Sciences    *
*    IS User Services         Rice University, Houston, Texas    *
******************************************************************
```

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 21:45:22 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 11:44:22 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081520.AA117439@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@csemail
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

Hank, Andy, and anyone else interested in regenerators.....

I have a few comments from the ol' CW fart.....

> As Andy Wallace said
> >
> > The parts list is very short and it looks like a simple set to build. I
> > might start gathering the parts and giving it a try. I've never actually
> > used a tube regen set. The only thing that worries me is having the B+
> > on one side of the headphones (like most of the articles in the book).
> > Can I get around this by using a 4000-ohm-to-lower-ohm output transformer?
> > Or, for that matter, a 4000:4000 one if I want to use crystal headphones?
> > I know enough to keep my fat fingers away from the B+ on the set, but
> > having it encircle my head makes me a tad nervous.
> >
> > Comments and reminiscences quite welcome. If you remember regens from when
> > they were new, I promise not to tell.

I ain't dat ol' methinks, but, gather up a chair there, youngun' an'
tarry a small whiles, an' we will sees what we can see.....

I have been running regens for 25 years, now, of all types and designs,
including ---- yecchhh.... solidus gestatus notoobus..... (:+{{.....

The solid state thingies just don't seem to have the same ``feel'' and ``sound'' that a good `00A detector has at 18 vdc on the plate.

For CW use, I will take a good regen, anytime, over almost anything else. For AM use, regennies are just not quite as good as some other sorts of detectors, like power detectors, etc. For sideband, that ancient early 1920's fone diversion, regen detectors are as good as anything else.

My main CW receiver for the past 25 years has been an ancient and well used Navy RAL regenerative trf receiver that was designed by RCA (the folks who knew the most about real commercial regenerative receivers) about 1937 or so. It still blows the socks off the Kenwood TS-140S, when it comes to listening to CW, although the TS-140S has a better AGC and a better dial readout. It is, perhaps, the epitome of commercial regenerative receiver designs, aside from a few marine shipboard type examples, also designed and built by RCA (RMCA). If you want to learn about a good regenerative receiver design, check out the schematic of the RAL or RAK (HF/LF twins). The alternative classic of greatest renown is the commercial IP-501A, designed by the Wireless Specialty Apparatus Co. on Navy designs from WWI (the classic SE-143, et al.), and marketed by RCA (RMCA). Amateur designs, in general just could not compare, but there are some classic amateur designs such as Porter Quinby's 1927 classic and John Reinartz's 1922 classic that started amateurs off with ``low loss'' and ``efficient'' tuner designs. The 1929 style receiver designs from the ARRL labs (Ross Hull, et al) represent the epitome of the early amateur regenerative designs. There were a select few later designs of note, such as the QSL sized receiver by Fred Sutter about 1940 which used a 12 inch antenna, and some early novice designs in the 1950's. But, basically after WWII, the regenerator fell into disuse, except aboard ship, where it reigned supreme on LF/MF until synthesized late model receivers could match it in the 1970's.

On CW, though, it is still hard to beat, if properly designed and built.

> >
> Naw, I'm not THAT old.
> On the headphones deal, if you want to keep the DC out of the
> headphones, you can use a resistor for a plate load and hook the phones
> to the plate through a cap 4K ohms and a 1 microfarad mylar look like a
> good guess for 2K ohm period "cans."

Anything from 0.1 to 10 microfarads should work quite well, in my experiences, although I prefer transformer coupling if parts are available. For most receivers, I use only 48vdc on the plates, so hooking the tin cans into the final audio amp B+ is no-sweat and perfectly safe. If you use 67.5 or greater volts on the B+ then

USE TRANSFORMER OR IMPEDANCE COUPLING, for yer hide's sake, to keep the B+ off the tin can pins. Ya don't wants yer ears to light up. If you use resistance coupling, you will have to run 90 vdc or more to even begin to be equivalent to 48vdc on transformers. My recommendations are to stick with transformer coupling or reactor coupling (impedance coupling).

>
> If you really want to go "period," use a choke for the plate load. 1.5
> henries looks like 4K ohms at 400 CPS.

Almost any choke for power supply use will work, e.g., anything from 1 to 1000 henries, in my experiences. The old 500 henry coupling reactors from National are scarce as ``rocking horse doodoo'', to quote an English friend of mine. The chokes out of old vacuum tube TV chassis work fairly well. If in doubt, try it if the wire size looks like it is small enough to make the reactor have a few ohms of audio frequency reactance. It will probably work just fine.

My experiences have indicated that about 36-48 volts DC on the plates is plenty for almost any regen design. A detector and one step at that plate voltage will hear anything yer kenicomoyawhooie will hear. At most you probably dont ever need more than two audio stages, and if you are concerned about detector radiation, one stage of RF designwise.

For quiet operation, ALWAYS use batteries for filament and plate power. Hum is hell on a regennie. I use small 12vdc 3-10ah batteries for plate and filament power and make up a small wooden tray to hold 48vdc worth. You have to hear the difference that batteries make, on hum to belive it, but once you do, you will be convinced for life.

Proper selection of grid coupling capacitance and biasing resistor are the most important thing in a regennie. Almost anything audio will work fine. Pay most attention to the detector stage and it will give better service. For most detector use, using almost any sort of triode or pentode vacuum tube at the general frequencies of 500khz to 20 mhz, use a 100pf grid coupling capacitor (10-250pf will work fine) and a 10 meg ohm grid resistor (0.1-1000 megs works fine, but 1-10 megs is usually best) for triodes and a 1 meg resistor is probably best on tetrodes and pentodes.

Audio stages don't need any fancy biasing at 48vdc or less, but if you are inclined to bias, use anthing from 1.5 to 4.5 vdc as bias, and that should work fine. Adjust to suit, for the loudest volume. A 0.1 megohm volume control in the grid of the first audio stage has some value as a howl prevention resistance and a means of varying the audio volume. It is preferrable, though, to run the audio full on, and use input coupling as the means of controlling audio loudness.

Use about 25 pf max tuning capacitance for bandsetting and a 5 pf capacitance for actual tuning. That will spread the CW portion of the band all across the dial (like 3500-3600khz or so). Don't use more than 50 pf grid capacitance, total, on HF, or it will reduce the input to the grid by shunting the signal voltage to ground.

Use as little input coupling as possible. For local ragchews, I use no antenna at all on my open breadboard regennies. The metal cased ones usually use a 2 foot antenna for local ragchews. For regional or DX work, use about a 25 foot antenna, unless you are wanting to pull in farroffslabovia, where you might use the regular transmitting antenna for reception. Last night I was on with the RAL on a 24 inch antenna working 160 meters and 80 meters with great signal strength and no overloads on the detector, and was able to full QSK, to boot!

> ***
> Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
> ***

Enuff prattlin', from de ol' man to the young squirts, to quote an ancient and famous epistle from QST, about 1922.

Good Luck, and Keep the Regenerators Regenerating!!!!!

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:11:12 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 06:36:21 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081235.AA01593@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

On the headphones deal, if you want to keep the DC out of the headphones, you can use a resistor for a plate load and hook the phones to the plate through a cap 4K ohms and a 1 microfarad mylar look like a good guess for 2K ohm period "cans."

If you really want to go "period," use a choke for the plate load. 1.5 henries looks like 4K ohms at 400 CPS.

OK, here goes in crappy ASCII, but is this what you meant?

```
                     B+
                      |
                      |
                      R
                      |
                      +----C--------o
                      |              )
                     --- plate      o
                                    |
                                    | to wherever other end of phones went!
```

A choke shouldn't be too tough to find.... But anyway, is this what you meant?
>From what little I understand of tubes (and reading about 20s/30s gear is fascinating) this seems like the right idea.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 22:03:00 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 11:43:43 -0600
Message-Id: <9503081532.AA117453@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@csemail
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx or TCVR

>
> Oh -- someone's comment to the List about making a regenerative transceiver
> is a VERY INTERESTING idea! Since I don't know the ins an outs of tube
> engineering, someone else would have to write the article. Sure sounds
> like a simple idea, though! I'm talking low-power CW, here.
>
> --Andy
>

Andy, et al..... There is a very interesting article from Radio Broadcasting about 1923 that has a one tube regenerative transceiver that is simple to build, and looks like it should be workable for 160 or 80 meter local chitchat.

There were several similar articles in QST of the late 1920's and early 1930's (1928-1934) detailing ``portable'' sets (in the days before the first Field Day of 1934). One of two of them were for single tube affairs where the tube was switched from receiver to transmitter.

```
The switching may be a bit complicated, but should be workable with
a multipole two or three position rotary or lever switch.

A better solution is to use a triode like a 6J5 for the receiver and
a triode such as a 6J5 for the transmitter.  Or, use a 6SN7 or a 12AT7
where both tubes are in one bottle.

Good Luck!

73/Bob/NA4G


From boatanchors@theporch.com  Wed Mar  8 22:22:43 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 19:33:29 -0600
Message-Id: <199503090119.TAA03127@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: Re: Ranger chirp on 40 mtrs



>> I've been fighting a problem with a friends Johnson Ranger I, that's
>> got me running in circles.  It chirps very badly on 40 meters...
>                        <snip>
>
>Well I have one that chirps (when it works) on all bands..just general
>chirpiness I guess..(;-/..so any hints youz guys come up with would be
>appreciated here as well. I have yet to get the power supply up and
>running so I imagine "check the caps" would be a good place to start??
>thanks....
>73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..
>
Before you do that, tighten all VFO housing screws (including the ones
facing the front panel).  That seems to be all some old Rangers and other
Johnson rigs using the 122 VFO design require, according to my on-the-air
ragchews with fellow Johnson CW addicts.

73! - Mark, NE9G


From boatanchors@theporch.com  Wed Mar  8 22:41:44 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 19:24:44 -0600
Message-Id: <199503090116.TAA02862@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: Re: Ranger chirp on 40 mtrs

>I've been fighting a problem with a friends Johnson Ranger I, that's
>got me running in circles.  It chirps very badly on 40 meters, but none
>of the other bands.  Power to the VFO is stable.  It seems as
>though RF on 40 Meters only is getting into the VFO.  I've bypassed
```

>just about everything with .01's, and tried every trick I've been able
>to muster up.
>
>Anyone experienced this before, or have recommendation for
>remmedy??
>

Heheh. I struggled with my Ranger I and 40 meter chirp for a couple months of weekends. At one point it played fine and clean as long as it was out of the cabinet, but as soon as it was slid in and buttoned up, it was whoop de whoop de time again.

In summary.. several factors contributed to the 40 meter chirp in my Ranger. The shielding around the VFO must be VERY intact. This means loosening and then tightening ALL screws. You will have to remove the front panel to get at some of the more critical ones.

Within the VFO, the four metal posts that the top cover screws to must also be tightened. There is a heck of a lot of heat generated within the VFO enclosure, and things do expand/contract a lot over time.

I also had to replace screen grid bypass capacitors within the VFO (after bypassing everything else in vain, or with some but little improvement.)

I even went as far as to put ferrite beads on leads entering the VFO box, and all of the above helped to some degree or another. But the non-secure screws/nuts on the enclosure (even one loose one causes noticible increase in instability) and the bypass cap on the VFO tube were the primary culprits in my case.

I wish they had decided to run the VFO on 3.5 when operating on 40 (my first quick fix was to change the cam on the VFO bandswitch to let the VFO run on 160 when I was on 40!), but there are plenty of clean keying Rangers out there on 40, so the original design is basically ok..

Good luck! And read the extra tips in that article you thoughtfully provide in the back of your Ranger I manual. The bit about grounding the PA tank rotors might help out in severe RF feedback cases, but wasn't necessary here. Grounding the PI net tuning cap caused some serious instabilities on 15 and 10 in my case, so I left it 'stock'.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 8 19:38:19 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 12:43:54 -0600
Message-Id: <F3895233.F3895247@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Re. Librarians

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Hello John, VE3LL

Re. suggestion to direct replies to individuals, not the net...

After that little blast of yours, I can only reply NO WAY, JOSE!!! For this message, and this message only, I'm using the full bandwidth. Your attack can't be permitted to go unchallenged, and my reply will NOT be kept from the view of other BOATANCHORS users.

Things must be very different in Canadian library systems. You accuse my YL of being a myopic "me" generation type. Well, I accuse you of operating in the library system of the land of Oz; the scenarios you describe show that you're not operating in the REAL world.

For openers, how do you feel about head librarians who believe in and actively practice censorship in the choice of materials? We're talking someone who will not allow anything in "her" library that doesn't conform to her view of the world, which is that of a spinster in her 60s whose only recreation is serving on the alter society of an EXTREMELY conservative church.

How do you feel about a county where ALL labor is Unionized, EXCEPT for the library, because this old biddy screamed blue bloody murder to the library board (who in turn screamed to the COUNTY board) to have the library exempted so that she could continue a reign of terror over her staff?

In terms of serving the public; how do you feel about a librarian who buys three copies of World Book Encyclopedia every year for the main library, but hasn't put a new one in on the shelves in over a decade, because "the old one is good enough. Besides, the kids will just wreck the new one"? The new ones have never been unpacked, and stay in a storage room.

How do you feel about a head librarian who feels it is appropriate to divert library materials and staff hours to the benefit of her church?

How about a librarian who flatly refuses to have a computer in "her" library because she's too damned lazy to learn how to use one?

Once a bunch of local kids came into the library looking for help in finding pictures of Black children in books. This woman assisted them, without any sort of rebuke, after the kids said they wanted them to use as a model because "we're going Trick or Treating and we wanna dress up as niggers".

And what does the library board have to say about all this?

Absolutely nothing.

The staffing decisions this bunch of bozos made were ludicrous and irresponsible. One staffer (a high school dropout) recommended by the head librarian went thru unopposed for two reasons: (A) the applicant "likes books", and (B) the applicant was a personal friend of of the head librarian, the two having met at church!

This person is now (would you believe) the county system's CATALOGER! She's never heard of OCLC, or even Dewey Decimal. Every book this so-called cataloger has touched in the last 5 years has had to be RE-cataloged by the branch people before it can be shelved.

Don't tell ME about library boards; corruption, bigotry, nepotism, and hypocrisy are thier stock and trade. And I'm not just talking about ONE board; I've seen the same scenario in every one I've encountered. Talk to them myself, you say? I have. Suffice it to say we were not impressed. Nor were we amused.

Enough. This whole thing has brought up a very unpleasant past that I'd sooner forget.

The bottom line was that at least two Masters degreed librarians that I know of were so disgusted by the particular situation I described that they just walked away from the field. My YL was one of 'em.

Mr. T., K9TA